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RCE 7/2003

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/708,932
Filing Date	November 8, 2000
First Named Inventor	Salman Akram
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	J. Mackey
Attorney Docket Number	3434.1US (97-0856.01/US)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on ____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ____
- iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other ____

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2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of ____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other ____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-1469
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other ____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$750.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	James R. Duzan	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	28,393
Signature	<i>James R. Duzan</i>	Date	March 20, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Express Mail Label Number: EV092486665US

Date of Deposit: March 20, 2003

Person Making Deposit: Blake Johnson

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.**

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Salman Akram

Serial No.: 09/708,932

Filed: November 8, 2000

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FORMING METAL CONTACTS ON A
SUBSTRATE

Examiner: J. Mackey

Group Art Unit: 1722

Attorney Docket No.: 3434.1US
(97-0856.01/US)

14/D/KW
3/26/03
(N.E.)

NOTICE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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Date of Deposit with USPS: March 20, 2003

Person making Deposit: Deidra Pfeil

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING RCE

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This amendment is in response to the Final Rejection of the claimed invention in the Office Action of January 2, 2003 whose timely period of response occurs March 2, 2003, and whose initial period of response is set to expire on April 2, 2003, the Advisory Action of March 10, 2003.